

June 12, 2019

Ben Welsh MuckRock News DEPT MR 67842 411 A Highland Ave Somerville, MA 02144

Re: Freedom of Information/PA Act Request DOC-OS-2019-000517

Dear Mr. Welsh:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act Request to the Department of Commerce submitted January 22, 2019 and assigned Tracking No. DOC-OS-2019-000517. Your request was for:

"...A copy of the Department of Commerce's Freedom of Information Act request logs for calendar year 2018."

The information you requested is publicly available on the Department's electronic FOIA system, with the exception of United States Patent and Trademark Office. The FOIA log for USPTO is being forwarded to you for September 27, 2017 through March 17, 2018. It is being partially withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552, under exemptions (b)(3) and (b)(6). Exemption (b)(3) exempts from disclosure records that are made confidential by statute. The statute used in regard to this request is U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, 35 U.S.C. § 122, which protects information concerning patent applications. Exemption (b)(6) protects personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

FOIA logs for the remainder of the Department of Commerce can be viewed at https://foiaonline.regulations.gov. The following are instructions:

On the home page, scroll down to "FOIA Essentials."

Chose the "search icon."

On the Quick Search page chose Advanced Search (it is highlighted in blue).

This page will give you "Look Up By" options.

One by one you can choose the information you want on your FOIA log.

If you have any questions or concerns or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact Harriette Boyd, telephone at (202) 482-1485 or by email at hboyd1@doc.gov.

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You may also contact the Department's FOIA Public Liaison:

Carrie Hyde-Michaels
U.S. Department of Commerce
Office of Privacy and Open Government
1401 Constitution Ave. NW Room 61015
Washington, DC 20230
(202) 482-3842
Chyde-michaels@doc.gov

Please refer to your FOIA request tracking number, DOC-OS-2019-000517, when contacting us.

In addition, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

Office of Government Information Services,
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001
e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448, or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

You have the right to appeal this partial denial of your FOIA request. An appeal must be received within 90 calendar days of the date of this response letter. Address your appeal to the following office:

Assistant General Counsel for Employment, Litigation and Information (Office) U.S. Department of Commerce Office of the General Counsel - Room 5890 1401 Constitution Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20230

An appeal may also be sent by e-mail to FOIAAppeals@doc.gov or by FOIAonline, if you have an account in FOIAonline, at https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home#. The appeal should include a copy of the original request and initial denial, if any. All appeals should include a statement of the reasons why the records requested should be made available and why the adverse determination was in error.

The appeal letter, the envelope, and the e-mail subject line should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." The e-mail, FOIAonline, and Office are monitored only on working

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days during normal business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday). FOIA appeals posted to the e-mail box, FOIAonline, or Office after normal business hours will be deemed received on the next normal business day. If the 90th calendar day for submitting an appeal falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal public holiday, an appeal received by 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, the next business day will be deemed timely.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience.

Sincerely,

Carrie Hyde-Michaels
Deputy Chief Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officer
& Deputy Program Director for FOIA/Privacy Act Operations
Office of Privacy and Open Government